



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012

No. 22

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of sea, land and sky, we worship You. Guide our lawmakers today in Your straight path. Inspire them with insight and courage that they may walk with integrity. Search their hearts and lead them away from all in-direction, equivocation, and pretense that will keep them from arriving at Your desired destination. Open their eyes to see opportunities in adversities, as You empower them to carve tunnels of hope through mountains of despair. Fortify their desire to live with sincerity and self-effacement for the glory of Your kingdom on Earth.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, February 9, 2012.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator

from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. The majority will control the first half of the time and the Republicans will control the final half. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1813. At 2 p.m., there will be a rollcall vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1813.

We have been in consultation with the Republican leader and his staff, and we may have another vote this afternoon. We are probably going to have more than one vote this afternoon.

### MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 2079

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that S. 2079 is at the desk and due for its second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2079) to extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and Federal employees.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to the bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I will have more to say about this later.

### MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SETTLEMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I received a call from Secretary Donovan, the Secretary of Housing, indicating that Nevada was part of the settlement. It is in all the newspapers today. It appears Nevada will get about \$1½ billion to work out our foreclosure problems in Nevada. We have led the Nation for years in foreclosures. We are not proud of that, but it is a fact.

For many years, we were the economic driver of the States. No State did better economically than Nevada for two decades. If you want a good job, come to Nevada. If you want to invest in real estate, come to Nevada or if you wanted to start a small business, come to Nevada. The collapse on Wall Street has hurt our housing market. We have not yet recovered. I commend the attorney general of Nevada, Catherine Masto, who was a fine lawyer before she became attorney general and has only become better with the work she has done. She negotiated this. I am very proud of her and confident the work she did will bring dividends to the beleaguered housing industry in Nevada.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

FIRST LIEUTENANT ERIC YATES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I have the sad duty today to share with my colleagues the story of one brave

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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